

MINUTES
PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD
August 10, 2015

1. ROLL CALL

Present: JD Birchmeier, Amy Saunders, Karen Kochanski, Robert Pudim, Cheresse Montgomery, and Council Liaison Brian Bagley

Absent: Rick Accountius, Doug Golliher

Staff Present: Jeff Friesner, Kim Shugar, and Jennifer Wojniak

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion by Amy Saunders to approve the August 10, 2015 agenda, the motion was seconded by Robert Pudim, the motion passed 5-0.

3. APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MONTHS MINUTES

A motion by Amy Saunders to approve the June 8, 2015 Park and Recreation Advisory Board (PRAB) minutes, the motion was seconded by Robert Pudim, the motion passed 5-0.

4. PUBLIC INVITED TO BE HEARD

A. Sharon O'Leary 534 Emery St. Longmont, CO

Sharon wanted to raise awareness about homeless issues at Collyer Park. The shelters at the park offer free electricity, for homeless to plug in coffee pot, phones and for RV use. Sharon has concerns about giving away free electricity on taxpayer dollar, which undermines the City generating revenue. Sharon feels that if the shelters are rented, then that is when the electricity should be turned on. Sharon has two ideas for this issue. One idea is to install a flip breaker box, and the second

would be to turn on the electricity during peak times for rentals. Also, Sharon is in favor of a combined ice rink/pool. She feels that packaging them together is a good idea.

Discussion:

Karen Kochanski wanted to know the laws in regards to parking an RV at the park and using the electricity. Jeff Friesner doesn't think they are breaking any City ordinance as long as they are not parked for more than 72 hours. A group of City staff led by Shawn Lewis are working on policies regarding homelessness in the community. One of the issues they are discussing is in regard to electricity usage. The goal of this group is to provide consistency among the City Departments. Amy Saunders suggested using a lockbox with a key. Jeff stated that there are a few parks that have them. Cherese Montgomery likes the combo boxes, Kim Shugar says that it doesn't work due to vandalism. Kim is working on park regulations on when the public can and cannot use electricity.

5. OLD BUSINESS

A. Update Competitive Pool and Ice Rink Feasibility Study

On Aug 18th, the Pool and Ice Rink Feasibility Study will be presented to Council.

The Recreation Master Plan will also be addressed during the Council meeting.

There is a lack of competitive pools in the immediate area of Longmont, with a large market to serve. There is also a growing demand for pool time that can't be supported by Centennial Pool, which is over 40 years old. If Council is in favor, then the next step would be determining a location, finalizing partnerships, and facility design. The study found that Centennial Pool is structurally intact but needs to be renovated to make ADA compliant. Consultants feel that the City of Longmont cannot support three pools in Longmont. Cherese Montgomery thinks there can be multi-use with the 50 meter; Karen Kochanski and Councilman Bagley agreed.

Karen Kochanski wondered where the pool would be located. Jeff said that it could go in at Dry Creek, Quail Campus or Clark Park but location is not part of the study

at this time. Councilman Bagley thinks that this will become a destination facility, and feels that this will entice regional and college competitions which will increase City revenues. The recommendation is to keep Centennial Pool open until the new pool is built, then repurpose Centennial Pool. Amy Saunders would like more feedback from the neighborhood around Centennial Pool.

A motion by the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board (PRAB) to recommend the lap pool, leisure pool and ice center concept, based on community needs and potential cost recovery. The motion passed 5-0.

A motion by the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board to recommend further investigation of the 33 meter and 50 meter lap pool lengths. The motion passed 5-0.

6. NEW BUSINESS

A. Envision Longmont

Envision Longmont is a community wide planning effort by the City to update and integrate the Longmont Area Comprehensive Plan and the Longmont Multi-Modal Transportation Plan. Envision Longmont is looking for direction on the most important issues and opportunities facing the City of Longmont. Amy Saunders is representing PRAB in the process and is looking for input on what the Board believes are important issues.

7. ON-GOING ITEMS

Cherese Montgomery wondered about the status of the Left Hand Creek Greenway. Kim said that the flood project was finished and the spring flood project is underway. Five underpasses are closed due to mud. Button Rock permits did not sell out, there are plenty of passes left at the Memorial Building. Karen wondered if they can complete parking first at the Quail Campus before the courts are put in. Kim stated that it's too late and that the courts have already been poured.

8. ITEMS FROM STAFF

Kim updated the Board on \$1.6 million dollars of damage due to spring rain. Discovery trails and Left Hand Greenway were damaged. With the new FEMA declaration the City will receive 75% reimbursement.

9. ITEMS FROM BOARD

Robert Pudim asked about the lack of parking at Garden Acres dog park. Jeff stated that locating the parking at Carr Park was the only way the neighbors would agree to the park. Amy Saunders invited the Board to the El Comite celebration, which is celebrating 35 years in Longmont. The celebration is at Collyer Park on Saturday August 15th. Karen Kochanski wants to ban smoking on the Union Reservoir beach. Kim said that the City ordinance states that smoking is allowed in parks, and Union Reservoir is a park. Kim will look into the ordinance. J.D. Birchmeier mentioned Boulder Bird Club went to Golden Ponds. Jeff suggested postponing the field trip with Council until next summer. June 13, 2016 during regular meeting time was decided by the members of PRAB.

10. PUBLIC INVITED TO BE HEARD

A. None

11. ADJOURNMENT

A Motion by Amy Saunders to adjourn, the motion was seconded by Robert Pudim, the motion passed 5-0.